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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OEXC, OSCI, TGEN. TECH, RO
SUBJ: US-ROMANIAN COOPERATION IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY:
GANLEY-URSU MEETING, FEBRUARY 20

1. SUMMARY. DURING FRANK DISCUSSION BETWEEN DAS GANLEY, AMBASSADOR AND NCST PRESIDENT URSU, FEB. 20, ABOUT US/GOR S&T RELATIONS, URUSU CONCEDED THAT S&T COOPERATION, PARTICULARLY WITH NSF, HAD NOT GONE WELL BUT EXPRESSED HOPE THAT US WOULD NOT RAISE MANAGEMENT PROBLEMS TO HIGHEST POLITICAL LEVEL. HE REAFFIRMED STRONG GOR COMMITMENT TO S&T COOPERATION AND PLEDGED THAT NCST WOULD SEEK MUTUALLY SATIS-FACTORY SOLUTIONS. DAS GANLEY AND AMBASSADOR AFFIRMED STRONG US DESIRE TO MAINTAIN AND STRENGTHEN S&T RELATIONS AND URGED NCST ACT QUICKLY BEFORE INTEREST BY US S&T AGENCIES IN COOPERATING WITH ROMANIA WITHERS. END SUMMARY.

2. IN CONTEXT OF PRIVATE MEETINGS IN CONJUNCTION WITH MID-TERM REVIEW OF US/GOR PROGRAM OF COOPERATION AND EXCHANGES, DAS GANLEY AND AMBASSADOR HAD EXCEP-TIONALLY FRANK DISCUSSION WITH PRESIDENT URSU OF ROMANIAN NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR SCIENCE AND TECH-
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NOLOGY (NCST) FEBRUARY 20 ABOUT WHAT USG REGARDS AS GENERALLY UNSATISFACTORY STATE OF OUR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY RELATIONSHIP.

3. IT WAS POINTED OUT TO URSU THAT US DESIRE TO MAINTAIN AND DEEPEN S&T RELATIONSHIP HAD NOT WANED AND SPIRIT OF ACCOMMODATION PREVAILED ON US SIDE.

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HOWEVER, DUE TO LONG-STANDNG PROLEMS, US S&T
AGENCIES WERE AT STAGE OF LOSING INTEREST IN COOPERATING
WITH ROMANIA. A FEW YEARS AGO, ROMANIA RECEIVED
BIGGEST SHARE OF FUNDS ALLOVBTED TO EE; THESE FUNDS NOW
GOING TO OTHER SOCIALIST COUNTRIES WITH MORE ACTIVE
PROGRAMS. ROMANIA MUST MOVE SWIFTLY TO RESOLVE
EXISTING PROBLEMS AND DEVELOP NEW INITIATIVES THAT
WILL BE MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL OR MOMENTUM WILL BE LOST.

4. DAS GANLEY STATED THAT APART FROM INDUSTRIAL
R AND D, COMPUTUER TECHNOLOGY AND ADVANCED ELECTRONICS,
WHICH WERE RULED OUT, THERE REMAINED LARGE SPECTRUM
OF S&T ACTIVITIES THAT CAN BE EXPLORED FOR COOPERA-
TION IN AREAS OF HIGH NATIONAL PRIORITY TO ROMANIA
AND US. HOWEVER, IN ORDER FOR COOPERATION TO FLOURISH,
WITHIN REASONABLE PROPRIETARY AND SECURITY LIMITS, WE
MUST KNOW WHAT ROMANIA IS DOING IN SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY. TRUST IS ESSENTIAL INGREDIENT IN
DETERMINING AREAS OF COMMON INTEREST. HE ALSO
STRONGLY EMPHASIZED THAT REGULAR EXCHANGES OF
SCIENTISTS ARE ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL TO A VIABLE
PROGRAM OF S&T COOPERATION.

5. URSU CONCEDED THAT S&T COOPERATION, PARTICULARLY
WITH NSF, HAD NOT GONE WELL FOR VARIETY OF REASONS
WHICH HE DID NOT WISH TO DISCUSS IN DETAIL. HE
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WANTED TO EMPHASIZE HIS DESIRE AND DESIRE OF HIS
GOVERNMENT TO CONTINUE S&T COOPERATION WITH US IN
BETTER WAY. THIS DESIRE ON ROMANIAN PART IS STRONGER
THAN THAT OF OTHER SOCIALIST COUNTRIES. ROMANIAN
SYSTEM IMPOSES CERTAIN LIMITS ON WHAT NCST CAN DO;
HOWEVER, PROBLEMS ARE LARGELY ADMINISTRATIVE, AND HE
WAS SURE SITUATION WILL BE IMPROVED. HE SAID HE HAD
INSTRUCTED NCST ADVISER MANZATU TO FIND MUTUALLY
SATISFACTORY SOLUTIONS TO PROBLEMS. IN CLOSING,
URSU ASKED FOR GREATER FLEXIBILITY ON PART OF US S&T
AGENCIES WORKING WITH ROMANIA AND EXPRESSED STRONG HOPE
THAT WE DO NOT RAISE ORGANIZATIONAL AND MANAGEMENT PROB-
LEMS TO POLITICAL LEVEL.

6. DAS GANLEY ASSURED URSU THAT US WILL TRY TO BE
FLEXIBLE IN OUR RELATIONSHIP, BUT WE MUST SHOW
IMMEDIATE PROGRESS IN IMPROVING THE RELATIONSHIP,
PARTICULARLY WITH NSF, OR WE WILL BE UNABLE TO
CONTINUE.

7. FOREGOING NOT SEEN BY DAS GANLEY PRIOR TO HIS
DEPARTURE FEBRUARY 21, AND HE MAY WISH TO AMPLIFY

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OR COMMENT ON THIS REPORT.
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